

On page 6, line 8, before "In the following,..." insert the heading
--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

On page 6, line 17, delete "to" and insert --from--.

On page 6, line 16, before "Fig. 1 illustrates.." insert the heading
-DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 9, line 25, after "restrictor" insert --due to the presence of
constrictor element 23--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-12 as follows:

1 1. (Amended) A device for use as a readily portable device for intermittent
2 compression of human extremities for assisting the return of body fluid in the direction
3 of the heart, said device comprising a cuff to be applied to an extremity and a miniature
4 pressure generator for intermittent pressurization of the cuff, wherein said cuff has, in
5 the direction of return, a width of at most 25 cm and is configured as a single-chamber
6 system. [characterized by the combination of the following features;

7 a) the device comprises a cuff to be applied to an extremity and
8 b) a miniature pressure generator for intermittent pressurization of the cuff,
9 c) said cuff (2) comprising, in the direction of return, a width (B) of only 25 cm at
10 the most and
11 d) being configured as a single-chamber system.]

1 2. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1, [characterized in that]
2 wherein said cuff [(2)] corresponds to a cuff as used for blood pressure measurements.

1 3. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized in that] claim 1, wherein said pressure generator [(1)] is a roller pump.

1 4. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized by] claim 1 further comprising a pressure control means, which connects
3 a cuff chamber defined by said cuff to the atmosphere when the pressure therein
4 exceeds a predefined overpressure.

1 5. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 4, [characterized in that]
2 wherein said pressure control means comprises an outlet valve [(21, 22)] forming an
3 overpressure outlet for said cuff [(2)], said overpressure outlet being [permanently]
4 open, except when said pressure generator [(1)] pressurizes said cuff [(2)].

1 6. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized in that] claim 4, wherein said pressure control means comprises a
3 restrictor [(6b)] in a conduit [(6)] between said pressure generator [(1)] and said cuff
4 [(2)], and an outlet valve [(21, 22)] with a stopper [(22)], which, in a first position,
5 releases an outlet [(21)] to the atmosphere, and, in a second position, blocks said
6 outlet, said stopper [(22)] assuming these positions as a function of the difference in
7 pressure between an inlet and an outlet of said restrictor [(6b)].

1 7. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized in that] claim 1 further comprising a controller [(5)] which switches said
3 pressure generator [(1)] ON/OFF, thereby pressurizing said cuff [(2)] with a defined or
4 definable pressure amplitude and a defined or definable repetition frequency.

1 8. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 7, [characterized in that]
2 wherein said controller [(5)] is designed to vary said pressure amplitude and/or
3 repetition frequency.

1 9. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized in that] in claim 1, wherein a [the] measured overpressure of said cuff,
3 compared to atmospheric pressure, ranges between 20 mm Hg and 100 mm Hg.

1 10. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized in that] claim 1, wherein said cuff [(2)] is pressurized 1 to 10 times per
3 min.

1 11. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized in that] claim 1, wherein, said cuff [(2)] is pressurized 1 to 15 times per 5
3 min.

1 12. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,
2 characterized in that] claim 1 further comprising means for uncoupling said pressure
3 generator [(1) can be uncoupled] from said cuff [(2)], preferably by means of a quick-
4 release fastener].

Please add the following claims:

1 13. (Newly Added) Use of a device comprising a cuff to be applied to an
2 extremity, and a miniature pressure generator for intermittent pressurization of said
3 cuff, said cuff comprising, in the direction of return of body fluid in the direction of
4 the heart, a width (B) of maximally 25cm, and being configured as a single-chamber
5 system, as a readily transportable device for intermittent compression of human
6 extremities for assisting the return.

1 14. (Newly Added) A method for stimulating the flow of body fluid
2 comprising the steps of:

3 applying a cuff to an extremity, wherein said cuff has a width of at most 25 cm and is
4 configured as a single-chamber system; and
5 intermittently pressurizing said cuff.

1 15. (Newly Added) The method as set forth in claim 14, wherein the step of
2 intermittently pressurizing said cuff comprises a controller actuating a pressure

3 generator to pressurize said cuff with a defined or definable pressure amplitude and a
4 defined or definable repetition frequency.

1 16. (Newly Added) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said
2 controller varies said pressure amplitude and/or repetition frequency.

1 17. (Newly Added) The method as set forth in claim 14, wherein the step of
2 intermittently pressurizing said cuff comprises pressurizing said cuff 1 to 10 times per
3 min.

1 18. (Newly Added) The device as set forth in claim 14, wherein the step of
2 intermittently pressurizing said cuff comprises pressurizing said cuff 1 to 15 times per
3 5 min.

Respectfully Submitted,



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